May, 1997 and a special meeting with the Secretary to GOI by Kerala government, on the possibility of establishing consumer protection centres in Kerala for the interest of the public in consumer activities an action plan was finalised and it was decided to establish consumer information centres at Trivandrum. Kochin and Kozhikode;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Kerala Government has requested for additional financial assistance for the purpose: and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reacion thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) A proposal to establish Consumer Information Centres at Thriuvanathapuram, Kochi and Kozikode has been received from Govt. of Kerala. This was duly examined. Since the Central Standing Committee on Consumer welfare Fund had taken a decision to provide financial assistance for one such centre in each State/UT to begin with, the State Government was advised to submit their proposal for one such centre in the proforma prescribed under the consumer Welfare Fund Rules, 1992.

World Bank's observation on TPDS

1118. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Statesman of 9th February, 1999 under the caption. "TPDS open to fraud: World Bank"; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to ensure proper functioning of the Trageted Public distribution System (TPDS) it has been impressed upon the State and the Union Territories that greater transparency should be introduced in the working of the system, inspection schedules should be drawn up for the District Taluk level officers right from the Collector District Magistrate to the Inspector of Supplies, Vigilance Committees should be constituted and their regular functioning ensured. A Model Citizens' Charter for TPDS has also been prepared and circulated to the State/UTs for adoption.

As per the news item, the World Banbk report points out that the highest gains to the poor would come from, iter alia, phasing out completely the second and the untargated channal of PDS. The proposal to bar the affluent sections of the society from access to PDS was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministrers held of Basic Minimum Services (BMS) held during 4-5 July. 1996.

The Conference, however, felt that as a large section of the population who may be above the poverty line (APL) are also at present getting the benefit of the PDS, suitable measures should be taken to ensure availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices to this section. The general consensus in the Conference of Chief Ministers held on 30.9.1997 to review implementation of TPDS was that there should be no reduction in the allocation to APL families. It has not been possible to exclude the non-poor from PDS because of the lack of consensus on this issue.

Taking Sugar of Loan For PDS

1119. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken sugar on loan from various millers in the country to meet the demand of PDS;

(b) if so, the total quantum thereof and the names of sugar factories/millers from whom such deals have made;

(c) the reasons for taking sugar from millers on loan; and

(d) the present stock position of sugar with Government for distribution under PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) Due to decline in sugar production during the last two consecutive sugar seasons, 1996-97 and 1997-98 (October-Sep-tember), there has been a deficit in levy sugar account for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS). To meet this shortfall, the Government have taken a loan of 2 lakh tonnes of sugar during the current season, 1998-99 from the sugar industry out of their freesale portion. The list of sugar factories from which the loan quantity has been taken is enclosed as Statement *(See* below).

As on 31.1.1999 the stock of levey sugar for distribution under the PDS with the sugar mills after allocating monthly quota for April, 1999 was about 6.S lakh tonnes.

Statement

List of Sugar Factories from which Sugar was Taken on Loan

SI. No.	Short Name
1.	Gurdaspur
3.	Zira
	Batala
4.	Fazilka
5.	Morinda
6.	Bhogpur
7.	Nawanshahr
8.	Patiala
9.	Budhewal
10.	Dhuri
11.	Phagwara
12.	Seron
13.	Nakodar
14.	Jagraon
15.	Ajnala
16.	Faridkot
17.	Mukerian
18.	Baba Bakala
19.	Dasuya
20.	Patran
21.	Amloh
22.	Rohtak
23.	Panipat
24.	Karnal
25.	Sonepat
26.	Shahbad
27.	Palwal
28.	Jind
. 29.	Yamunanagar
30.	Kaithal
31.	Meham
32.	Bhuna
33.	Naraingarh
34.	Bhadson
35.	Sri Ganganagar
36.	Keshoripatan
37.	Bhupalsagar
38.	Mohiuddinpur
39.	Sakhoti Tanda
40.	Meerut
41.	Buland Shahr
42.	Saharanpur
43.	Rohana Kalan
44.	Doiwala
45.	Bagpat
46.	Ramala
47.	Annoopshahr
48.	Sarsawa
49.	Nanauta
50.	Morna
51.	Daurala
52.	Mawana
53.	Deoband
54.	Iqbalpur
55.	Lhaksar
56.	Khatauli
57.	Mansurpur
58.	Shamli
59.	Modinagar
60.	Simbhaoli
61.	Titawi
62.	Agauta
63.	Todarpur
64.	Unna

65	Bijnor	117.	Chughli
66.	Amroha	118.	Siswabazar
67.	Rampur	119.	Khadda
68.	Bareilly	120.	Lakshmiganj
69.	Maholi	121.	Ramkola (Corp)
70.	Hardoi	122.	Bhatni
71.	Chhata	123.	Chittauni
72.	Chandpur	124.	Munderwa
73.	Kichha	125.	Ramkola
74.	Experimental	126.	Chilwaria
75.	Gajraula	127.	Rauzagaon
76.	Bilaspur	128.	Nandganj
77.	Bazpur	129.	Daryapur
78.	Nadehi	130.	Nanpara
79.	Sitarganj	131.	Kashi
80.	Gadarpur	132.	Rasra
81.	Harduaganj	133.	Sethian
82.	Bisaipur	134.	Ghosi
83.	Majhola	135.	Sultanpur
84.	Puranpur	136.	Mahmudabad
85.	Kaimganj	137.	Sardarnagar
86.	Badaun	138.	Captainganj
87.	Tilhar	139.	Padrauna
88.	Belrayan	140.	Kathkuiyan
89.	Sampurannagar	141.	Seorahi
90.	Semikhera	142.	Baitalpur
91.	Dhampur	143.	Deoria
92.	Asmoli	144.	Pratappur
93.	Seohara	145.	Walterganj
94.	Rajaka Sahaspur	146.	Basti
95.	Kashipur	147.	Biswan
96.	Pilibhit	148.	Ratna
97.	Rosa	149.	K.M. Sugar
98.	Gola	150.	Balrampur
99.	Aira	151.	Tulsipur
100.	Paliakalan	152.	Nawabganj
101.	Baheri	153.	Babhnan
102.	Neoli	154.	Dhuriapur
103.	Hargaon	155.	Ramgarh
104.	Powayan	156.	Oswal Overseas
105.	Ghatampur	157.	Maizapur
106.	Najibabad	158.	Barlai
107.	Dhanaura	159.	Navalnagar
108.	Venus	160.	Dabra
109.	JK Sugar	161.	Dalauda
110.	Bundki	162.	Sehore
111.	J.B. Ganj	163.	Jaora
112.	Rupapur	164.	Khalbuiure
113.	Barabanki	165.	Bardoli
114.	Bukhwal	166.	Madhi
115.	Jarwal	167.	Chalthan
116.	Pipraich	168.	Sayan J

169. Mahuva
170. Paniari
171. Gandevi
172. Maroli
173. Valsad
174. Kamres
175. Vataria
176. Dharikheda
177. Kosamba
178. Virpur
179. Kodinar
180. UNA
181. Talala
182. Talaja
183. Palaj
184. Dhoraji
185. Shriram
186. Krishna
187. Bhuinj
188. Marali
189. Sahyadri
190. Shendre
191. Sangli
192. Walwa
193. Vishwas
194. Hutatma
195. Atpadi
196. Nagewadi
197. Mahankali
198. Warana
199. Ichalkaranji
200. Kumbhikesari
201. Bidri
202. Bhogawati
203. Shirol
204. Daulat
205. Gadhinglaj
206. Kagal
207. Asurle
208. Hupari
209. Lakshmiwadi
210. Tilaknagar
211. Walchand Nagar
212. Phaltan
213. Kolhapur
214. Tasgaon
215. lew
216. Suikale
217. Ajara
218. Tippeahalli
219. Kannad
220. Terna
221. Naldurg
222. Kalambar
223. Shankar Nagar
224. Satpuda
225. Jijamata
226. Pusad
227. Pathri
228. Basmath Nagar
229. Ambajogai
230. Georai
231. Faizpur
232. Bhoras
233. Shirpur
234. Samarth
235. Nalegaon
236. Manjara
237. Killari
238. jamani
239. Golegaon
240. Phulambri
241. Majalgaon
242. Bodegaon
243. Mangraul
244. Chopda
245. Samsherpur
246. Lohgaon
247. Chikali
248. Mundkhed
249. Niphad
250. Karamveer
251. Materwadi
252. Paise
253. Vithewadi
254. Sanjivani
255. Kopergaon
256. Ganeshnagar
257. Ashok Nagar
258. Pravaranagar
259. Rahuri
260. Shri Gonda
261. Sangammer
262. Bhende
263. Vridheswar
264. Sonai
265. Nira
266. Malegaon
267. Bhavaninagar
268. Theur
269. Patas
270. Junnar
271. Akluj
272. Sadashivnagar

273. Kumathe
274. Gursale
275. Vairag
276. Bhitna
277. Ravalgaon
278. Changdeo
279. Belapur
280. Malinagar
281. Pandurang
282. Indapur
283. Rajgad
284. Agasti
285. Sant Dhamaji
286. Shirur
287. Partur
288. Hassanpur
289. Harinagar
290 Majhaulia
291. Motihari
292. Gopalgang
293. Righa
294. Chargola
295. Nowgong
296. Shakarnagar
297. Zaheera bad
298. Metpalli
299. Medak
300. Laichaypata
301. Nizamabad
302. Amdalavalasa
303. Chodavaram
304. Anakapalle
305. Etikoppaka
306. Thandava
307. Vijayarama
308. Bhiraadole
309. Hanuman
310. Palair
311. Tenali
312. Kovur
313. Chittoor
314. Tirupati
315. Chagallu
316. Tanuku
317. Tadauvai
318. Kirlampudi
319. Samalkot
320. Chelluru
321. Vuyyuru
322. Laskshmipuram
323. Kallur
324. Nayudupeta
325. Kumarantham
326. Niacin
327. Mayura Nagar
328. NCS Gayatri
329. Sangaradi
330. Varalaskhmi
331. Sameerwadi
332. Mandya
333. Gangavati
334. Bhadravati
335. Pandavapura
336. Nipani
337. Sankeshwar
338. Malaprabha
339. Chikodi
340. Raibag
341. Gokak
342. Gauribidanur
343. Bidar
344. Vanivilasa
345. Bhadra
346. K.R. Nagar
347. Haveri
348. Hemavati
349. Brahmawar
350. Chamundeswari
351. Ugarkhurd
352. Hospet
353. Siruguppa
354. Davengere
355. Kollegal
356. Bas
357. Aland
358. Bijapur
359. Kupatgiri
360. Pugalur
361. Lalgudi
362. Thanjavur
363. Perambalur
364. Madura
365. Mayiladuthurai
366. Ambur
367. Vellore
368. Tirupattur
369. Kallakurichi
370. Ulundurpet
371. Madurantakam
372. Tiruttani
373. Salem
374. Dharmapuri
375. Amaravathi
376. Alanganallur

377. Thiru Arooran
378. Thirumandakudi
379. Cauvery
380. Nellikuppam
381. Villupuram
382. Ambika
383. Ponni
384. Sakthi
385. Shivganga
386. Bannari-Amman
387. Dharam
388. Pollur
389. Rajshree
390. Sethiathope
391. Cheyyap
392. Alapuram
393. Palayaseevaram
394. Mannam
395. Chittur
396. Tiruvalla
397. Aska
398. Bargarh
399. Dhenkanal
400. Nayagarh
401. Badamba
402. Dharamgarh
403. Ahmedpur
404. Plassey
405. Dimapur
406. Pondicherry
407. New Horizon
408. Tiska

Issue of ration-cards to people below poverty line

1120. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined at length the matter regarding issuing ration-cards to all persons whose income is below cut off level; and

(b) what new steps are being taken to strengthen the PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) introduced in June, 1997 the States/Union Territories have been asked to identify the families below poverty line (BPL) and issue special cards to them. To work out the number of BPL families the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission based on the methodology of "Expert Group on estimation of proportion and number of poor" under the Chairmanship of Late Prof. Lakdawala have been adopted. For the identification of BPL families the thrust is to include only the really poor and vulnerable sections of the society such as landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans creaftsmen such as potters, tappers, weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters etc. in rural areas, and persons earning their livelihood on a daily basis in the informal sector like porters, coolies, rickshaw pullers and hand-cart puillers. Fruit and flower sellers on the pavement etc. in urban areas.

Realisation of levy rice target by F.C.I.

1121. SHRI K. M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India are not realising levy rice target, as reported in a section of the press recently.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the target fixed for this purpose and the step taken to achieve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The collection of levy rice under the levy scheme depends on the quantity of paddy purchased by the millers. Hence no targets are fixed for procurement of levy rice.

A quantity of 46.46 lakh tonnes of levy rice has been procured for Central Pool upto 1.3.1999 in the current Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99, as compared to 56.33 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year. Levy collection in Punjab and Haryana was less due to exemption from levy granted to these